

John Lenders to step into Major Projects portfolio

Finance Minister John Lenders will take on the key portfolio of Major Projects in revisions to the Victorian Cabinet announced by Steve Bracks yesterday. Lenders new post will make him responsible for the delivery of infrastructure including the Spencer Street Station redevelopment, the Regional Fast Rail project, the upgrading of the MCG, and the building of a Convention Centre and a new Showground.

Transport Minister Peter Batchelor, who previously had also been responsible for Major Projects, has overseen the launch of the Mitcham Frankston tollway project, the reopening of regional rail lines, and other transport projects including a new ticketing system. He will now focus solely on transport, alongside his responsibilities as Leader of Government Business in the Legislative Assembly.

Other changes announced by the premier in this mid-term reshuffle include the appointment of Tim Holding as Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Corrections, moving from Manufacturing and Export and Financial Services, and the move of Andre Haermeyer to the economic portfolios of Manufacturing and Export, Small Business and Financial Services.

John Lenders will also become Minister for Workcover, while Marsha Thomson will gain the portfolio of Consumer Affairs. Rob Hulls, Attorney General and Industrial Relations Minister, will also take on Planning, and Mary Delahunty will retain her portfolio responsibilities of Arts and Womens Affairs.

Overleaf is a copy of the full list of Victorian Government Ministers and their responsibilities leading in to the 2006 election, including the recently announced portfolio responsibility of Children, under the care of Community Services Minister, Sherryl Garbutt.

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	Corrections
The Honourable Rob Hulls MP	
	Attorney-General Planning Industrial Relations
The Honourable Gavin Jennings MP	Aboriginal Affairs Aged Care
The Honourable Lynne Kosky MP	Education and Training
The Honourable John Lenders MP	Finance Major Projects Workcover and the TAC Leader Government Business Legislative Council
The Honourable Justin Madden MP	Sport and Recreation Commonwealth Games
The Honourable John Pandazopoulos MP	Gaming Racing Tourism Minister Assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs
The Honourable Bronwyn Pike MP	Health
The Honourable Theo Theophanous MP	Energy Industries and Resources
The Honourable Marsha Thomson MP	Consumer Affairs Information, Communication Technology
	Cabinet Secretary: Richard Wynne MP

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